

ARCH Group's aim: *"To show our love for God and You"*

Weekly Notices

23th July 2017

Sixth Sunday after Trinity

This Week's Activities

Monday: 7.30 pm Harvington Handbell Ringers rehearsing in school hall

Tuesday: No Tuesday Prayers at Church Lench

9.45 am Holiday club at *****

Wednesday: 10.00 am Holiday club at *****

Thursday: 10.00 am Holiday club at *****

8.30 pm **Men's Night** at "The Wheelbarrow Castle," Radford

Future Activities: August

Wednesday 2nd 10.30 am Lenches WI book club

11.00 am **RBL meeting** at the "Wheelbarrow Castle," Radford

Saturday 5th **Revd Richard's 'Three Peaks Challenge'**

Monday 7th Stop date for the September issue of the ARCH Messenger

Wednesday 9th 3.00 pm **CAMEO tea** at St James', Harvington

Saturday 12th 9.30 am **St James' gardening team** working in church gardens

7.30 pm Archers evening at Church Lench Village Hall

Thursday 17th Home communions

10.00 am Lenches WI trip to Gloucester

8.30 pm **Men's Night** at the The Lenches Club, Church Lench

Want to publicise an activity here?

Details of weekly, monthly or one-off activities required

Please use the "Contact Us" page on the website to tell us

Next Week's Services: Sunday 30th July 2017

10.00 am

Harvington

Benefice Service+

Today's Collect

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding: pour into our hearts such love toward you that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

For Prayer

Pray for the gift of the Holy Spirit to inhabit us all.

Prayer leaflet available to make it a daily prayer

Pray for our farming community and their supporting services as they bring in the harvest, and pray for good weather

Pray for migrants and refugees as they try to find a better life and for wisdom for potential host countries in how to receive and care for them

Pray for a time of refreshment for those going on holiday this summer, and a successful season for those working in resorts welcoming them

Pray for our forthcoming holiday club, that the preparations will go well and we will get good weather and a good team of helpers

Pray for Lucas getting Christened today at Church Lench and his parents Michael and Louise as they help him grow in the faith

Give thanks for the life of "Poppa Jim" whose memorial service took place at Church Lench yesterday and the Brown family who mourn him

This Week's First Reading: *Genesis 28:10-19a*

¹⁰Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the LORD **stood beside him and said, 'I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I **have promised you.**'** ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, **'Surely the LORD is in this place – and I did not know it!'** ¹⁷And he **was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'** ¹⁸So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. ¹⁹He called that place Bethel.

This Week's Psalm: *Psalms 139:1-11*

- 1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me; you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
- 2 You mark out my journeys and my resting place and are acquainted with all my ways.
- 3 For there is not a word on my tongue, but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
- 4 You encompass me behind and before and lay your hand upon me.

Psalm 139:1-11 continued

- 5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, so high that I cannot attain it.
- 6 Where can I go then from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?
- 7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
- 8 If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
- 9 Even there your hand shall lead me, your right hand hold me fast.
- 10 **If I say, ‘Surely the darkness will cover me and the light around me turn to night,’**
- 11 Even darkness is no darkness with you; the night is as clear as the day; darkness and light to you are both alike.

This Week’s Second Reading: *Romans 8:12-25*

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh - ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, **but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’** ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ – if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will

Romans 8:12-25 continued

but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

This Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-42*

²⁴**Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, "Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?" ²⁸He answered, "An enemy has done this." The slaves said to him, "Then do you want us to go and gather them?" ²⁹But he replied, "No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn."**

³⁶Then Jesus left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, 'Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.' ³⁷He answered, 'The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-42 continued

is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴²and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. **Let anyone with ears listen!**

Next Week's First Reading: *Genesis 29:15-28*

¹⁵Laban said to Jacob, 'Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?' ¹⁶Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. ¹⁷Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. ¹⁸Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, 'I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel.' ¹⁹Laban said, 'It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me.' ²⁰So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her. ²¹Then Jacob said to Laban, 'Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed.'

²²So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. ²³But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. ²⁴(Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) ²⁵When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, 'What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?' ²⁶Laban said, 'This is not done in our country giving the younger before the firstborn. ²⁷Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years.' ²⁸Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

Next Week's Psalm: *Psalm 105:1-11*

- 1 O give thanks to the Lord and call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples.
- 2 Sing to him, sing praises, and tell of all his marvellous works.
- 3 Rejoice in the praise of his holy name; let the hearts of them rejoice who seek the Lord.
- 4 Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his face continually.
- 5 Remember the marvels he has done, his wonders and the judgements of his mouth,
- 6 O seed of Abraham his servant, O children of Jacob his chosen.
- 7 He is the Lord our God; his judgements are in all the earth.
- 8 He has always been mindful of his covenant, the promise that he made for a thousand generations:
- 9 The covenant he made with Abraham, the oath that he swore to Isaac,
- 10 Which he established as a statute for Jacob, an everlasting covenant for Israel,
- 11 **Saying, 'To you will I give the land of Canaan to be the portion of your inheritance.'**

Next Week's Second Reading: *Romans 8:26-39*

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? **It is God who justifies.** ³⁴Who is to

Romans 8:26-39 continued

condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶**As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'** ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, ³⁹nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Next Week's Gospel Reading: *Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52*

³¹**Jesus put before the crowd another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.'** ³³**He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.**

⁴⁴The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹**Have you understood all this?' They answered, 'Yes.'** ⁵²And he said to them, **'Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.'**